



# ***News Release***

## **PRESS OFFICE**

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### **U.S. Small Business Administration Selects Orange, CT Residents as the 2006 Small Business Person of the Year**

**ORANGE, Conn.** - Lynne Abrams-Cornwall and David Cornwall owners and operators of The Recreation Showroom in Orange, Connecticut have been chosen 2006 Small Business Persons of the Year in Connecticut by the U.S. Small Business Administration. Some of the criteria evaluated when selecting the Small Business Person of the Year are staying power, innovation, and sustained expansion all of which have been displayed by The Recreation Showroom.

The Recreation Showroom is a second-generation business established in 1978 by Lynne's parents, Muriel and Sidney Abrams. Since 1993, Lynne and husband David have managed and developed the business and have turned The Recreation Showroom into what is now considered a key player in the supply of home recreation equipment and supplies in Connecticut. Under Lynne and David's leadership, the company has made a major advance to a 9000 square-foot store on Race Brook Road in Orange, and since that time, they have not looked back.

Still growing, the company further expanded into the Litchfield and upper Fairfield County markets with a second location opening 30 miles away in Brookfield, CT in 1997. The company's growth has continued with a third location in 2002 in Avon, CT, providing entry into the suburban Hartford market as well. In 2005, a new headquarters facility was built near the original location in Orange, CT. The 20,000 square-foot headquarters facility located on 6 acres now serves as the flagship store as well as a central warehouse serving the other retail outlets. Building upon the original foundation and vision of their parents, Lynne and David have seen the business grow from a modest beginning to employ eighteen today. These days The Recreation Showroom is known for maintaining a broad selection of high quality products and friendly customer centered service.

Lynne, David, and son Jayden Bryce reside in Prospect, Connecticut, where they are committed to helping and giving back to the community. They have contributed to a broad range of charities including the Friends of Yale Children's Hospital and the Bridgeport YMCA's Drug Education for Youth. Lynne and David take well-deserved pride in being the store where "family fun begins" in Connecticut, which is one of the many reasons why Lynne Abrams- Cornwall and David Cornwall have been chosen 2006 Small Business Person of the Year, 2006.

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An award celebration for the SBA 2006 award recipients will be held Thursday June 15, 2006 at 4:00p.m. at The Belvedere, New Haven CT, for more information contact Hugh Curley at (860) 240-4650 or Greta Johansson at (860) 240-4672.